Milwaukee County Employees' Retirement System (ERS) Audit Committee Meeting MINUTES

Call to Order

Pension Board Chairman, Mickey Maier, called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. on September 1, 2011, in Commission Room 210, Milwaukee County Courthouse, 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Others Present:

Mickey Maier (via phone)

Mark Grady

Steve Huff

Marian Ninneman

Dan Gopalan

1. Topic: Membership Account Documents -- Discussion

Ms. Ninneman distributed drafts of two newly created ERS Enrollment forms, one for mandatory ERS membership and a second for optional ERS membership as proposed replacements of the current ERS Enrollment form. Proposed forms include a membership account beneficiary designation on the back side. These have been passed on to legal for review. Once approved, forms will be sent to active employees with contributory accounts for completion and return to ERS.

2. Topic: Pension Board Election Results

Committee discussed the results and recommendations from the independent review. it was noted that this item will be placed on the September Pension Board Agenda for additional discussion.

3. Topic: Pension Board Membership -- Discussion

Concerns regarding potential conflict of interest issues that may exist if employees from certain departments were elected to serve on the Pension Board were discussed. Any changes to the current election process will require an Ordinance change. The Employee Benefits Division will take the lead initiating proposed changes.

4. Topic: Backdrop Distribution Changes / Change to Backdrop Election Form - Discussion

The Backdrop Election form currently contains language regarding tax information on lump sum payments. ERS would like to eliminate this wording. After discussion it was decided that a bullet point will be added to the Acknowledgement form signed my members at their individual retirement session indicating they received and had read this information. Also discussed was the date no changes could be accepted regarding a Backdrop distribution. It was determined that no changes can be made after the Retirement Effective Date has passed.

5. Topic: Retirement Granted Report Information -- Discussion

Recent concern from members and retirees prompted discussion on the data that is included in the Retiree Granted report. Pension Board Rule 1040 governs the data to be included and would need to be amended. This item will be placed on an upcoming Pension Board agenda.

6. Topic: Membership Handbook

ERS will continue reviewing the Handbook, associated risk exposure and alternative methods of communicating material to active employees

7. Topic: Actuarial Services Proposals

ERS received responses to the RFP for Actuarial Services Proposals from three vendors – Buck Consultants, Gabriel, Roeder & Smith and Segal. Panel review of proposals will take place the week of September 5, 2011.

8. Topic: OBRA IRA Custodian RFI - Discussion

Mr. Yerkes updated the committee on responses received to the OBRA IRA Custodian RFI noting that one vendor expressed an interest. From the information received, however, it appears cost-prohibitive. Mr. Huff will ask the IRS if we can keep the payments due to unfound individuals for the 5-year holding period and then escheat to the State.

9. Topic: Medical RFI

Columbia St Mary's has been selected to provide medical review services.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Marian Ninneman Interim ERS Manager